

## Claims

- [c1] 1. A beam collimator arrangement for scanned-slot mammography having one or several collimators in an x-ray apparatus comprising:
- an x-ray source;
  - an x-ray image receiver positioned to receive x-rays from the x-ray source;
  - a compressor for compressing a female breast to be examined, said compressor being positionable between the x-ray source and the x-ray image receiver; and
  - said beam collimator positioned between the x-ray source and the means for compressing tissue,
- wherein said beam collimator arrangement is arranged on a carrying structure to displace the beam collimator arrangement between a first position when no x-ray exposure is conducted and a second position before x-ray exposure is initiated.
- [c2] 2. The beam collimator arrangement of claim 1, wherein said second position is a substantially short distance from said compressor.
- [c3] 3. The beam collimator arrangement of claim 1, wherein said displacement is in the lateral direction.
- [c4] 4. The beam collimator arrangement of claim 1, wherein said displacement is in the horizontal direction.
- [c5] 5. The beam collimator arrangement of claim 1, wherein said displacement is in the lateral and horizontal direction.
- [c6] 6. A mammography apparatus comprising:
- an X-ray source;
  - an X-ray image receiver positioned to receive X-rays from the X-ray source;
  - first and second means for compressing tissue, the means being positionable between the X-ray source and the X-ray image receiver and wherein the means further providing a compression surface of predetermined dimensions;
  - a beam collimator positioned between the X-ray source and the means for compressing tissue; characterized in that said apparatus further comprises means for displacing said beam collimator arrangement to displace the beam

collimator arrangement between a first position when no x-ray exposure is conducted and a second position before x-ray exposure is initiated.

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